

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-16. (canceled).

Claim 17. (currently amended): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service, which is provided in at least one packet-oriented communications network, the method comprising the steps of:

requesting, ~~by a controller,~~ use of the service by a controller that centrally controls transmissions over the network; and

variably allocating Quality of Service during call admission using the controller in response to the requests, wherein the Quality of Service is dependent upon at least one of (1) the service and (2) the requested use of the service, and wherein a high quality of service is awarded when a predetermined transmission capacity in the network exists, and a low quality of service is awarded otherwise.

Claim 18. (canceled).

Claim 19. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, wherein the service is the transmission of voice information.

Claim 20. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, the method further comprising the step of:

checking, via the controller, whether the requested use of the service can be provided with the intended Quality of Service by the communications network.

Claim 21. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, wherein, when the service is used by the communications

network, at least one packet stream which is allocated to the service is transmitted with the Quality of Service.

Claim 22. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 21, the method further comprising the steps of:

signaling, via the controller, the Quality of Service of the packet stream to at least one network gateway device; and

transmitting, via the network gateway device, the packet stream with the signaled Quality of Service to the communications network.

Claim 23. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 22, wherein the network gateway device is an edge device.

Claim 24. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 22, the method further comprising the step of:

requiring at least one acknowledgement of the signaled Quality of Service for the allocation of the Quality of Service.

Claim 25. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 22, wherein the Quality of Service is signaled using signaling packets.

Claim 26. (canceled).

Claim 27. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, wherein packet streams with the high Quality of Service are transmitted with priority by the network gateway device.

Claim 28. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 22, the method further comprising the step of:

providing a Quality of Service tag in the packets.

Claim 29. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 28, wherein the network gateway device transmits packet streams which are to be transmitted with a high Quality of Service with a first Quality of Service tag which represents the high Quality of Service, and transmits remaining packet streams with a second Quality of Service tag which represents the low Quality of Service.

Claim 30. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 29, the method further comprising the step of:

producing the Quality of Service on the basis of priorities, the high Quality of Service being high priority and the low Quality of Service being low priority, and the Quality of Service tag being a priority tag.

Claim 31. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, wherein the packets are Internet packets.

Claim 32. (previously presented): A method for allocating a Quality of Service for a service as claimed in claim 17, wherein the controller is a gate keeper in accordance with International Standard H.323.